

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KATHMA 00315 171329Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 AID-05 /023 W  
-----030394 172158Z /70  
R 171055Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 764

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KATHMANDU 0315

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: NP  
SUBJECT: AERIAL SURVEY OF NEPAL

REF: STATE 5929, KATHMANDU 215

1. EMBASSY AND AID HAVE CONSULTED FURTHER ON CHOICE OF AREA OF SUBJECT COMPARATIVE AERIAL SURVEY. WE FRANKLY FIND OURSELVES UNABLE TO RECOMMEND AN AREA WHICH IS CERTAIN TO OFFER VIVID EVIDENCE THROUGH PHOTOS OF DETERIORATION OVER TEN YEAR PERIOD. SPECIFICALLY, WIND BLOWN SEEDS CAN QUICKLY TAKE ROOT AND PRODUCE GRASS, BRUSH AND TREES WHICH COVER UP SCARS OF EROSION. THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT PERMANENT DAMAGE HAS NOT BEEN DONE, BUT IT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO OBSERVE AND RECORD ON FILM.

2. WITH THAT MAJOR QUALIFICATION EMBASSY SUGGESTS TWO POSSIBILITIES IN PRIORITY ORDER LISTED: (A) AREA SURROUNDING SURKHET IN THE BHERI ZONE TO WEST OF RAPATI; OR (B) AREA SURROUNDING DHANKUTA IN KOSHI ZONE IN EASTERN NEPAL. IN BOTH CASES SCOPE OF AREA SHOULD BE DECIDED ON BASIS OF TECHNICAL FACTORS PREVAILING IN WASHINGTON. AND IN BOTH CASES TWO SETS OF PHOTOS SHOULD BE COMPARED TO SEE WHETHER THEY DO IN FACT DEMONSTRATE POINT WE SEEKING TO MAKE. IF THEY FAIL TO DO SO WE WILL HAVE TO MAKE FURTHER SELECTION. FYI. BASIS OF THESE TWO CHOICES IS AS MUCH FAMILIARITY OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HIS MAJESTY WITH BOTH AREAS AS IT IS PARTICULAR NATURE OF EROSION PROBLEM. KING WAS IN DHANKUTA EARLIER IN 1977 AND WILL BE SPENDING NEXT HZNTH BASED IN SURKHET. SINCE ONE OF MAIN OBJECTIVES OF EXERCISE IS TO BE ABLE TO MAKE GRAPHIC POINT TO HIM ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THIS COUNTRY, IT IS OUR THOUGHT THAT SELECTING AREA WHICH HE HAS SEEN AND SPENT SOME TIME IN RECENTLY COULD BE PARTICULARLY TELLING.

DHANKUTA MAY HAVE ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGE THAT PARTICULARLY  
HEAVY RAINFALL IN THAT AREA MAY ACCENTUATE PROBLEM AND ITS  
CONSEQUENCES.  
HECK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE, SOIL EROSION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KATHMA00315  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780025-0543  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** KATHMANDU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 66  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 98d1cfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 5929, 78 KATHMANDU 215  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3764015  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AERIAL SURVEY OF NEPAL  
**TAGS:** EAIR, SENV, NP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/98d1cfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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